



ZFW

PATENT  
Customer No. 22,852  
Attorney Docket No. 7552.0025

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
)  
Claudio TONELLI et al. ) Group Art Unit: 3761  
)  
Application No.: 10/775,993 ) Examiner: Leslie R. Deak  
)  
Filed: February 9, 2004 )  
)  
For: SUPPORT ELEMENT FOR AN ) Confirmation No.: 1291  
INTEGRATED BLOOD )  
TREATMENT MODULE, )  
INTEGRATED BLOOD )  
TREATMENT MODULE AND )  
EXTRACORPOREAL BLOOD )  
TREATMENT APPARATUS )  
EQUIPPED WITH SAID )  
INTEGRATED MODULE )

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

In a restriction requirement dated June 29, 2006, the Examiner required  
restriction under 35 U.S.C. § 121 between

Group I - Claims 1-27, 39-43, and 63, allegedly drawn to a support  
element for a blood treatment module, classified in class 422,  
subclass 44.

Group II - Claims 28-38 and 75, allegedly drawn to a support element  
for a blood treatment module with a support structure associated  
with the main body of the element, classified in class 422, subclass  
44.

Group III - Claims 44-62, allegedly drawn to a support element for a blood treatment module with connectors designed to be connected to a blood treatment unit, classified in class 422, subclass 44.

Group IV - Claims 64-121, allegedly drawn to an integrated treatment module with a support element for a blood treatment machine, classified in class 422, subclass 44.

Group V - Claims 121-145, allegedly drawn to a machine for extracorporeal blood treatment with a support element, classified in class 422, subclass 44.

Group VI - Claim 146, allegedly drawn to a support element for a blood treatment module with specific fluid distribution circuitry, classified in class 422, subclass 44.

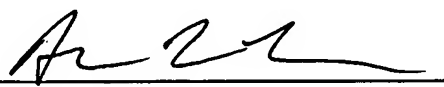
Applicants provisionally elect to prosecute Group I, without traverse, directed to claims 1-27, 39-43, and 63, allegedly drawn to a support element for a blood treatment module, classified in class 422, subclass 44.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our deposit account 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,  
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: July 17, 2006

By:   
Aaron L. Parker  
Reg. No. 50,785